Internal representations of the brain : shortterm visual memory and tool integration

Propositions

- A highly robust visual short-term buffer is required to adequately subserve cognition, but this buffer nevertheless proves vulnerable to distractors, as well as the passage of time.
- Short-term memory for the orientation of a simple visual line-object can be systematically distorted by an interfering line-object of a different orientation – the remembered orientation is attracted towards the interfering orientation, and memory precision is reduced.
- Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation ('TMS') over early visual cortex during the encoding of a memory increases the likelihood the memory will be forgotten, but when applied during the retention phase it can boost memory precision.
- When driving a car, the physical extent of the vehicle is coded for by the brain, and represented as an extension of the physical and functional self – the same goes for embracing a lover.
- The field of visual memory largely entails the study of visual pe rception under the guise of importance – and vice versa.
- The paradox of figuring out how a mere glimpse is perceived, is that it requires tens or hundreds of glimpses, at which point one can no longer speak of a glimpse.
- Human behavior is almost exclusively determined by the setting and immediate external environment – this massive predictability goes unnoticed as it is filtered out of our experience.
- To learn something that was never known before is fundamentally valuable, independent of any potential for hedonistic gain.
- Unsolicited, uneducated, non-expert opinions on social media – no matter their substance – strengthen in-group bonds while alienating those with opposing views, and polarize the debate.
- Becoming a parent doesn't change ones priorities – it just adds more priorities.